Human elements in ayurvedic medicines

657. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govenrment have found any human elements in the ayurvedic products recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had ordered any enquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the recommendations received by Government; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Recently an Hon'ble Member of Parliament brought a case of alleged use of animal parts and also some parts of human skull in two medicines made by a pharmacy in Uttaranchal to the notice of the Department. The matter was referred to the Government of Uttaranchal for further inquiry and necessary action under the law. At the same time the two medicines provided by the Hon'ble M.P. were got tested by reputed laboratories in the country. Regarding one of the medicines one of the laboratories has confirmed presence of DNA of human species but the other laboratory has not confirmed the same. Regarding the other medicine neither of the laboratories found DNA of any human origin. The analysis reports have been sent to the State Government of Uttaranchal for further investigation and appropriate action under the law.

Marketing of ayurveda

658. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether people all over the world show interest in alternative medicines especially in ayurveda;

(b) whether the market for ayurveda is largely untapped; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to increase the presence of ayurveda?